

Revelation 4:1-11  
The Throne Room of God—part 1 (the Father emphasized)

Introduction: This portion (4:1-5:14) sets the stage for the final section (6-22)

- 1) The Father's throne is introduced—4:1-5 (cf. 1<sup>st</sup> Kings 22:19; Ezekiel 1; Daniel 7; chart)
  - a) The invitation to the throne room—4:1 (is this the Rapture? No) (cf. 1:19)
    - i) An opened door
    - ii) A familiar voice (cf. 1:10)
  - b) The throne of God the Father—4:2-5 (cf. 5:1-6)
    - i) The Father upon His throne—4:2-3
      - (1) The Occupant—<sup>3</sup> ... *like a jasper* (clear; 21:11) *and a ruby/sardius* (red) *stone*,
      - (2) The rainbow—... *a rainbow (iris) around the throne, like emeralds* (green) ...
    - ii) Thrones around the Father's throne—4:4
      - (1) The occupants (cf. 4:10; 5:5, 6, 8, 11, 14; 7:11, 13; 11:16; 14:3; 19:4)
        - (a) Who are these elders? At least 13 differing views. Consider they are ...
          - Rewarded individuals—4:10 (crowns; stephanos)
          - Redeemed individuals—5:9 (redeemed **us**; Majority Text)
          - Distinct from the living beings—4:9-10; 5:6, 8, 11, 14; 7:11; 14:3; 19:4
          - Distinct from angels—5:11; 7:11
          - Distinct from Tribulation saints—7:13-14
          - Distinct from 144,000 saints—14:3 (cf. 7:1-8)
        - (2) Their appearance (some class of righteous judges?)
          - (a) See white robes: 3:4-5, 18; 6:11; 7:9, 13-14; 19:8, 14
      - iii) Sights and sounds from the Father's throne—4:5 (cf. Exodus 19:16; 20:18)
      - iv) In front of the Father's throne—(cf. 1:4)
  - 2) The Father on the throne is described—4:6-11
    - a) In front of the Father's throne—4:6a (cf. Exodus 24:10)
    - b) Surrounding the Father's throne—4:6b-8 (cf. seraphs in Isaiah 6:1-3, and cherubs in Ezekiel 1:4-14; 10:2, 14, 20)
      - i) Their proximity
      - ii) Their appearance—... *full of eyes ... like a lion, and ... like a calf, and ... like a person, and ... like a flying eagle.* <sup>8</sup> ... *each one having six wings, ...* ,
      - iii) Their consuming activity—(cf. 6:1, 3, 5, 6, 7; 15:7; 19:4)
      - iv) Their worship of three of the Father's attributes—(cf. 1:4, 8; Amos 4:13 in LXX)
    - c) Glory to the Father upon His throne—4:9-11
      - i) The worship from the living beings—4:9 *give glory and honor and gratitude* (1:8)
      - ii) Followed by the elders—4:10
        - (1) Consistent prostration—*will fall down in front of Him ...* ,
        - (2) Consistent worship—*and they will worship ...* ,
        - (3) Consistent submission—*and will throw their crowns in front of the throne*,
          - (a) *saying*, <sup>11</sup> *"You are worthy, our Lord and God, the Holy One, to receive glory and honor and power,* (cf. similar recognitions in 5:9-13; 7:10-12; 11:15-18; 15:3-4; 16:5-7; 19:1-8)
          - (b) Why? *Because ...*
            - (i) Ruler of all—**You** (emphatic) *created all things*,
            - (ii) Purposeful—*and because of Your will they existed and were created."*